2.

Descriptive Letterpress.

VIEWS OF TORONTO.

1850.

BK(S)
917.1354
S92
b2
Copy 2

VIEWS OF TORONTO.

THE accompanying Engravings, with Letterpress descriptive of each, are designed to give a correct and comprehensive idea of Toronto and its principal public buildings. For a brief historical retrospect, minute details of interest to tourists, descriptions of lesser public buildings, &c., we refer to "Nelsons' Hand-Book to the City of Toronto."

TORONTO.

In this general view of Toronto may be seen the position of the buildings of which a full view is given in the following Engravings, as indicated by the figures at the top of the picture, with the names below.

Toronto is situated on the north shore of Lake Ontario, between the Humber and Don rivers, 30 miles N.N.W. of the mouth of the Niagara river. The situation was chosen by Mr. Simcoe, the first governor of Upper Canada. The first survey of the ground was made in 1793. At that time dense and trackless forests lined the margin of the lake; and the only habitations to be seen were the slight huts of the wandering Indians. The city advanced slowly at first, suffered

a good deal during the war, but progressed again when peace was proclaimed. It was at first called York; but, in 1834, when it was incorporated as the first city of Upper Canada, its name was changed to Toronto, derived either from the Mohawk *De-on-do*, "trees in the water," descriptive of the appearance of the island, or more probably from *Toronto*, "the place of meeting" of the tribes.

Of all the towns on the Canadian shore of Lake Ontario Toronto is the largest and most important. In business it feeds most of the Upper Canadian towns, and collects for shipment to the sea-board more grain than all the other towns in the Upper Province put together. It has a vast number of substantial public buildings,—a market-place, post-office, colleges, and churches,—of no mean description. In short, though neither so old, rich, nor prosperous as Montreal, it has yet much to be proud of. Its streets are spacious, well laid out, and regularly built. The wooden houses, of which it was at one time almost entirely composed, are fast disappearing, and substantial stone or brick and mortar are taking their places. The situation of the city on the margin of the lake is low and flat, and its climate is not so healthy and invigorating as that of many of the other cities of Canada; yet cases of the fever and ague which infest the low-lying districts of America are not frequent here. Young in years, it has none of the associations which render Quebec almost classic; but it is as proud of its beautiful bay and aquatic sports as Quebec is of its ancient walls and its citadel. The scenery around Toronto is flat and uninteresting, and there is no place of any note nearer to it than Niagara.

At present Toronto contains about 7000 public and private buildings, and a population of nearly 50,000. The assessed value of property is not far from 7,000,000 dollars, or a million and a half sterling. In 1856 it was 6,102,316 dollars.

The yearly civic income and expenditure amount to about 300,000 dollars.

KING STREET.

The two main arteries of the city are King Street and Yonge Street, which, crossing each other at right angles, divide Toronto into four large sections. Yonge Street runs north and south, King Street east and west.

Entering the city from the western end of King Street, the first as well as the oldest public building which we see in the neighbourhood is the old hospital, since converted into Government offices; then Upper Canada College, a City School, and the venerable old Government House, with its beautiful grounds. South of the vice-regal residence, and on the bay shore, stand the Parliament Buildings, with the Upper and Lower Houses, Parliamentary Library, and adjoining public offices, now to be converted to other uses. Again, down King Street, we pass the extensive Rossin House Hotel, with its spacious rooms and handsome shops, the elegant Romain Buildings, and the mansion of William Cawthra, Esq. From this point, till we reach the St. Lawrence Hall, the shops are numerous, and many of them fitted up with great taste and regard for exterior decoration. (See the Engraving of King Street.) The Post Office, the Masonic Buildings, and shops in Toronto Street, are very handsome. Further on, Church Street takes its name from the Episcopal Cathedral of St. James, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, and St. Michael's Cathedral. Passing this street, we reach the St. Lawrence Hall, with its fine market and shops underneath. Towards the eastern end of the street, we pass Trinity Episcopal Church, and close by, the Roman Catholic Church of St. Paul. Further

on to the east, at a curve of the bay, stand the County Jail and the old Windmill (from which our view of the city is taken); beyond which, at a short distance from the city, are being erected the new City Jail, &c.

ST. JAMES'S CATHEDRAL (EPISCOPAL).

There are about thirty Protestant churches of different denominations in Toronto, and four Romanist.

The largest of the Protestant churches is St. James's Cathedral (Episcopal), of which a view is here given. This noble structure stands upon the corner of Church and King Streets, and is the fourth parish church which has stood upon the same site. The first was of wood, and was erected in 1803. This building was enlarged and improved in 1818; but in 1832 it was taken down, and replaced by a second one, of stone, capable of holding nearly 2000 persons. This edifice was destroyed by fire in 1839; but a third church was immediately afterwards erected in its place. Ten years subsequently, the same fate befell this church; and in 1849 the corner-stone of the present enlarged and beautiful edifice was laid. The designs were furnished by Mr. F. W. Cumberland. The style adopted is that of the early English Gothic. In the interior are side aisles, nave, galleries, organ-loft, chancel, and the usual vestry-rooms. The transepts are not yet finished. The extreme length of the cathedral is 200 feet by 115 feet wide. The interior is 111 feet long by 75 feet wide. The height from the nave to the centre of the handsome open ceiling or roof is 70 feet, and from the aisles to the cornice, 35 feet. The tower and spire, when finished, will be 275 feet. The chancel is a semi-octagon in form, of a depth of 42 feet, each side being pierced by windows of the transition period, with rich and varied

tracery. The whole of the chancel has carved panels beneath the windows, the altar-piece forming a centre, and the ceiling is groined with enriched ribs, carved bosses, &c. The pews are of Gothic character, with cut and enriched bench ends. The church is intended to accommodate 2000 persons, and the cost, exclusive of the tower and spire, was about 64,000 dollars.

The largest of the Romanist churches is the—

CATHEDRAL OF ST. MICHAEL,

which stands at the corners of Church, Shuter, and Bond Streets, with an entrance on Bond Street. It is in the early decorated style of English Gothic architecture, built of white brick and cut stone dressings, being 200 feet in length by 90 feet in width, and, with the transepts, making a total width of 115 feet exterior dimensions. The windows are large, and filled with tracery of great variety—the eastern window, of seven lights, being 36 feet high and 18 feet wide. The transepts have large rose windows, with canopied niches in the gables. The building is wholly under one roof, forming in the interior a nave, 170 feet long, 40 feet wide, and 66 feet in height, with piers and arches, triforium and rich ceiling. The side aisles are 180 feet long by 20 feet wide, and 48 feet high, with a gallery at the west end. The building was commenced in the year 1845, and finished in 1847. The interior is undergoing a thorough renovation. The tower and spire (not yet completed) will, when finished, be 250 feet in height.

UNIVERSITY.

There are many large and substantial buildings in Toronto for educational purposes. The chief of these are, the University, the buildings for the Department of Public Instruc-

tion, Trinity College, Upper Canada College, Knox's College, &c., &c.

The magnificent pile of buildings (see Engraving) which has recently been erected upon the University Park, will provide accommodation not only for the University of Toronto (which simply confers degrees), but also for University College, with its various lecture-rooms, residences, and students' quarters. The park originally consisted of 168 acres (including 12 acres of revenue); but part having been retained for Government purposes, 104 acres were set apart as a university park in 1856. Out of this number it is proposed (1858) to take a sufficient portion to form a public park for the citizens of Toronto. The remainder forms the site of the new University buildings, which were designed by Messrs. Cumberland and Storm, and were begun in 1857. The chief façades of the University building are to the south and east—the former of great and massive elevation, for distant effect from the lake and town—the latter of more broken and picturesque outline, for combination with the beautiful ravine lying between it and the main park avenue, from which it will be chiefly viewed. The general outline of the building approaches the form of a square, having an internal quadrangle of about 200 feet square, the north side of which is left open to the park. The main frontage on the south is about 300 feet long, with a massive Norman tower in its centre 120 feet in height. The east side of the building, 260 feet in length, is entered by a subsidiary tower. The west end of the quadrangle is about 200 feet in length.

The grounds and park will be well laid out and planted. Part of the grounds will be appropriated to the purposes of a botanical garden, and within the grounds are the buildings of the Magnetical Observatory.

NORMAL SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

One of the most attractive spots in Toronto are the buildings and grounds of the Department of Public Instruction for Upper Canada. This department includes the Education Office and Depositories, an Educational Museum, the Normal School, with two Model Common Schools, and a Model Grammar School.

The Normal School was established in 1847, and is designed for the training of common school teachers, under the direction of a Council of Public Instruction for Upper Canada. About 150 student-teachers attend annually during the two sessions, and receive tuition free, besides a sessional allowance towards defraying the expenses of their board.

The main building, as seen in the Engraving, is of white brick, with stone dressings, and is 184 feet front by 85 feet deep. The front is in the Roman-Doric order of Palladian character, having for its centre four stone pilasters of the full height of the building, with pediment, surmounted by an open Doric cupola--total height, 95 feet. In the centre of the building is a large examination hall, or theatre, capable of accommodating nearly 700 persons. The corner-stone was laid in July 1851, by the Earl of Elgin, Governor-General, who was a noble friend to popular education. The architects were Messrs. Cumberland and Ridout.

The grounds in front of the building, facing Goold Street, are beautifully laid out, designed no less to cultivate the taste of the teachers in training than to contribute to the gratification of the public. They are very much admired. They contain specimens of Canadian and foreign trees, flowers, and shrubs. The play-yards, gymnastic sheds, and cricket-grounds are at the east, west, and north of the building.

The entire square contains nearly 8 acres. The cost of the site and of the four buildings erected upon it did not exceed 120,000 dollars. The whole establishment is liberally supported by the Legislature, and is deservedly popular.

TRINITY COLLEGE.

This handsome structure is situated on Queen Street West. It stands in a spacious park of 20 acres, facing the entrance to the bay, from which point it presents a very striking appearance.

By the exertions of Dr. Strachan, the first Protestant Bishop of Toronto, this new college was erected in 1851, at a cost of £8,000, after plans prepared by Mr. Kivas Tully. The building is of white brick, with stone dressings, and is designed in the third period of pointed English architecture (temp. 1480–1520). It faces the south, and is 250 feet in front, with wings projecting east and west, 53 feet each. The porch of the principal entrance, in the centre, is of cut stone, over which is a bay window and ornamented gable to correspond. There are also handsome bay windows in each wing, with gables and windows similar to those over the entrance. The centre building is surmounted by a bell turret; smaller turrets ornament the wings. The building is designed to afford accommodation for eighty students, with the class-rooms, chapel, library, and museum—also private residences for the provost and two senior professors.

UPPER CANADA COLLEGE.

Upper Canada College, or Royal Grammar School, stands on a site of 9 acres, opposite the Government House, on King Street, and consists of a row of neat brick houses. The

centre one is the College proper, with its boarding-hall adjacent, and residences of the masters on either side. The buildings were erected in 1830, after designs by J. G. Chewett, Esq., and were long a chief ornament to the west end of the city. The cost including the site, was 80,000 dollars. The college contains appropriate class-rooms, and is well provided with other necessary adjuncts. Its lawn is handsomely laid out, and its cricket-ground and play-yard are extensive. This college is munificently endowed. Its officers consist of a principal and twelve masters. It is modelled after the celebrated English grammar-schools, and aims to impart a sound classical and English commercial education. Some of its pupils have already attained to eminence in the liberal professions in Canada, and some have nobly sustained the honour and glory of England on the field of battle.

The number of students attending is about 150.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE AND ST. JAMES'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS.

The Mechanics' Institute stands on the corner of Church and Adelaide Streets. The erection of this fine building was the result of a most praiseworthy liberality on the part of the public, and of the members of the Institute. It is of white brick, with stone dressings. The architects were Messrs. Cumberland and Storm. The design is Italian in its main features. The frontage on Church Street is 80 feet, and on Adelaide Street 104 feet. The cost was about 40,000 dollars. The building contains a large music hall, 76 feet long by 46 feet wide (with ante-rooms), the entrance to which is on Adelaide Street. It also contains a lecture-theatre capable of holding 500 persons, a large reading-room, library,

committee and apparatus rooms, with other accommodation.

The Mechanics' Institute was organized in 1830, and incorporated in 1847. The Hon. Dr. Baldwin was its first president. In 1844 its members numbered 100 ; they now number nearly 700. The library contains about 3500 volumes, and somewhat near 550 members avail themselves of its advantages. Lectures are delivered every winter on popular subjects, and classes for instruction have from time to time been formed. Annual industrial exhibitions have also been held. The annual income of the Institute is about 2000 dollars, including a parliamentary grant of 200 dollars.

The Parochial School of St. James, a neat little structure, is shown at the right side of the Engraving. It is attached to the Episcopalian Cathedral Church of St. James, and is of the same style of architecture. It is capable of holding 600 children, and cost 2500 dollars. It is used as a day and Sunday school.

CRYSTAL PALACE, OR PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION BUILDING.

This very handsome structure presents an admirable likeness to its great prototype of Hyde Park. The outline is very nearly the same, and the transepts are produced in miniature with excellent effect.

The site of the building is on the Ordnance reserve, nearly opposite the Lunatic Asylum. The designs were prepared by Messrs. Flemming and Schrieber, of Toronto, who have successfully reproduced a good copy of the great original. The architects state that the essential part of the building is constructed of cast-iron ; the vertical walls of obscured glass, similar to that used in the Dublin Exhibition Building ;

and the roof is covered with tin. Its total length is 256 feet, and its extreme width 144 feet, which includes a covered entrance 32 feet by 16 feet, on the southern front. The total area under roof is upwards of 22,000 superficial feet; the galleries occupy about 11,000 feet; four spacious stairs cover as much as 1280 superficial feet, and the whole floor space, exclusive of stairs, is more than 32,000 superficial feet. A handsome fountain adorns the centre of the building.

The Crystal Palace has been erected by the Board of Agriculture for Upper Canada as a permanent structure, in which to hold the yearly provincial exhibition of agricultural and mechanical products. The total cost of the building, exclusive of laying out the grounds, is about 22,000 dollars. The contribution of the City Council towards this object was 20,000 dollars, and of the County Council 4000 dollars. During the interval of holding the annual provincial exhibition in this city, the building will be used for fairs, county industrial and agricultural exhibitions, promenade concerts, and other large gatherings. The grounds will be neatly laid out. (See Engraving.)

ST. LAWRENCE HALL.

This building (designed by Messrs. Thomas and Sons) is erected on the site of the old City Hall and Market, and has a frontage of 140 feet on King Street by 75 feet on the side streets.

It has a fine Market Arcade in the centre, and handsome shops on either side in front, with offices above, and a Music Hall running the whole depth of the building. This hall or lecture-room has a depth of 100 feet by 38½ feet wide, and is 34 feet high.

It is handsomely decorated. The walls are painted in

fresco, and panelled, with appropriate figures and devices, including the royal arms, the arms of Upper and Lower Canada, and of the city. The arcade in front is 75 feet in depth, and the continuation in the rear, running to the next street, is 200 more, by 39 feet wide. It is neatly fitted up with shops and stalls. The Market Arcade is lighted by windows from above in the day, and by gas at night. The front entrance to this arcade is through a triple archway of cut stone; that to the Music Hall is by a door to the right. This hall is used for various public purposes, and the fee charged for its use, which is fixed by the corporation, is moderate. The building is of white brick, but the whole of the front is of cut stone. The style or order of architecture which has been adopted is that of the Roman-Corinthian, from the example of the Temple of Jupiter Stator. The centre is a tetrastyle portico of four three-quarter columns, with stone pilasters at either side. The city arms are finely cut in stone, and stand out boldly in the centre of the pediment, underneath which are the words—"ST. LAWRENCE HALL," also cut in relief in stone. The key-stones of the triple arch below are formed of three classic heads representing Neptune, and the rivers St. Lawrence and Ottawa. The enrichments on the head of the pillars, &c. are designed to represent Plenty, and other allegorical devices. The cupola which surmounts the entire building forms a circular temple of the Corinthian order, and contains a large clock and alarum bell. The whole cost of the building was about 30,000 dollars, independent of the shops.

THE MASONIC HALL.

This fine building is situated on Toronto Street, next to the Post Office. It was erected in 1857–8 by the enterpris-

ing firm of Messrs. A. and S. Nordheimer (pianoforte and music dealers), and takes its name from the ancient order of free and accepted masons, whose hall and lodge-rooms occupy the whole of the upper storey. The building is 102 feet front by 75 feet deep, and five storeys high. The centre part is six storeys high. There are four extensive shops on the ground floor, the fronts of which are fitted up with ornamental cast-iron columns. The window-sash and shutters are also of iron. The whole of the upper part of the front is carried out in richly carved Ohio freestone. The main entrance to the upper part is in the centre of the building. Here a wide staircase leads to the spacious halls above. These halls run the whole length of the building, and divide the first and second floors into handsome double offices. The entrance to the masons' suite of rooms is by a separate staircase. These consist of an ante-chamber, armory, coat, chapter, supper, and encampment rooms. The principal hall, or blue lodge, is 73 feet long by 42 feet wide, and is 24 feet in height. The building is amply provided with every convenience for mercantile purposes and public offices, and embraces all the improvements of modern architecture. The architect, Mr. William Kauffman, was also architect of the Rossin House. The principal contractors were—for stone and brick work, Messrs. Worthington and Brother; and for cast and wrought iron, Messrs. Vale & Co. The cost of the building and site was 100,000 dollars.